

REMARKS

Original claims 1-11 and new claims 12-14 appear in this application for the Examiner's review and consideration. The new claims are directed to preferred features of the invention as recited in the original claims and in the specification. As no new matter has been introduced the new claims should be entered at this time.

In response to the Examiner's restriction requirement, applicants elect, with traverse, the invention of Group I, claims 1-7, directed to a coffee plant or cell for producing galctomannans. As new claims 12-14 are directed to the elected subject matter at least those claims should also be examined at this time.

It is respectfully submitted that the method claims of Group II should be examined with the product claims of Group I since the relation between these two groups of claims is not as suggested by the Examiner. The bottom of page 2 of the office action explains that the groups of claims are distinct if (1) the process as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product, or (2) the product can be used in a materially different process. Contrary to the Examiner's conclusion, the process cannot be practiced with other coffee plants or cells since the process clearly incorporates the pants and cells of the Group I claims. The same is true of the coffee plants and cells: they are designed for use with the recited processes and not with other processes. For this reason, the process and product claims are sufficiently related that they should be examined together in this application.

Furthermore, it is the understanding of the applicants that claims directed to methods of use of a compound or product may also be considered with a compound or product claim provided that the method claims include all of the features of an allowable compound or product claim. Accordingly, when claim 1 is found to be patentable, dependent claims 7-11 will also become allowable since they will be depend ultimately from product claim 1.

Respectfully submitted,

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